

IMMEDIATE RELEASE, NOVEMBER 28, 1961

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
AT THE MEDAL PRESENTATION CEREMONIES
OF ALLEN W. DULLES
AT THE CIA BUILDING IN LANGLEY, VA.

Mr. Dulles, Mr. McCone, General Cabell, Members of the Central Intelligence Agency:

I want, first of all, to express my appreciation to you all for the opportunity that this ceremony gives to tell you how grateful we are in the government and in the country for the services that the personnel of this Agency render to the country.

It is not always easy. Your successes are unheralded -- your failures are trumpeted. I sometimes have that feeling myself. But I am sure you realize how important is your work, how essential it is -- and how in the long sweep of history how significant your efforts will be judged.

So I do want to express my appreciation to you now, and I am confident that in the future you will continue to merit the appreciation of our country, as you have in the past.

I am also particularly grateful because this ceremony gives us all an opportunity to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant. Allen Dulles' career as a citizen of this country -- and as you know who has made his vast personal resources available to the country -- stretches all the way back to the administration of Woodrow Wilson. I know of no other American in the history of this country who has served in seven administrations of seven Presidents -- varying from party to party, from point of view to point of view, from problem to problem, and yet at the end of each administration each President of the United States has paid tribute to his service -- and also has counted Allen Dulles as their friend.

This is an extraordinary record, and I know that all of you who have worked with him understand why this record has been made. I regard Allen Dulles as an almost unique figure in the country. I know of no man who brings a greater sense of personal commitment to his work -- who has less pride in office -- than he has. And therefore I was most gratified when we were permitted today to come out to the Agency to present this award to him in your presence.

(then the President read the Citation)

FOR RELEASE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1961 at 11:15 AM EST

STATEMENT BY ALLEN W. DULLES

I am returning to the practice of the law and will be "of counsel" to the firm of Sullivan and Cromwell of New York City. I had been a member of this firm for many years before joining the Central Intelligence Agency in November 1950.

This arrangement will permit me to devote time to writing and speaking on the issues of the day in the field of foreign affairs and particularly on the problems posed by the communist threat.

At the request of the President and of Mr. John A. McCone, I will make myself available as a consultant to my successor as he may wish.

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